Response to Office communication dated: 2/6/2004

Attorney Docket: HKPC/363/US

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

page 2, 1st paragraph:

1996 discloses a health bra improving bra sheath strip. This disclosure illustrates placing a protruding platform on the lined brassiere sheath strip in the arc of under part of existing bra and in inner side keeping in touch with the chest. The Chinese patent claims that this arrangement provides a healthy massage to guarantee that lymph liquid circulates normally. However the brassiere sheath strip is still a loosely woven textile layer that is easily pierced by the support wire, resulting in injuring the user, so it is not ideal to use yet. There remains a need for a bra sheath that will lessen or eliminate the problem of the metal support wire piercing the loose textile layer of a brassiere sheath.

Page 3, lines 25-29:

Figure 1 is an illustration of an unfolded bra sheath.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken along the lines of 2-2 of FIG. 1

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view of the formed bra sheath.

Figure 4 is an illustration of the woven components of the inventive bra sheath.

Figure 5 is an illustration of part of a a bra incorporating the inventive bra sheath.

page 3, lines 32-33:

As shown best in Figure 2, the One aspect of the invention is an elongated bra sheath 10 (shown best in Figure 3), comprising an elongated fabric liner 12 having an inner

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page 4, 1st paragraph:

surface 14, an outer surface 16, opposing edges 18, 20 and a longitudinally extending medial line 22. An elongated fabric sheath body 24 having opposing edges 26, 28 is attached to the liner so that one sheath body edge 26 is adjacent one liner edge 18 and the opposing sheath body edge 24 28 is disposed toward the opposing liner edge 20. The edges 26, 28 of the sheath body 24 are attached to the liner 12 by, for example, weaving, stitching, heat bonding or adhesive bonding. The material of the sheath body 24 intermediate the attached edges 26, 28 is free of the liner so that a tunnel 30 for an underwire is formed. Advantageously, the sheath body is attached to one side of the medial line 22 as shown in Figure 2. In some preferred embodiments, the sheath body substantially extends the length of the liner 12. A plurality of lugs or beads, each 34, is attached to, and projects from, the liner inner surface 14. Advantageously, the lugs 34 are disposed in two, longitudinally extending rows opposite of the medial line 22 from the sheath body 24. The lugs are formed from a plurality of longitudinally extending stretch nylon yarns. The nylon yarns forming the lugs 34 are interleaved at spaced positions 38 with threads in the liner 12 using a needle loom. The interleaved yarns and threads attach the lugs 34 to the liner 12. In one advantageous embodiment the lugs 34 intermediate the spaced positions 38 are adjacent, but not attached to, the liner inner surface 14. A softness layer 36 is disposed adjacent the liner outer surface 16.

page 5, last paragraph:

Alternatively, the weft threads 46 comprising the fabric used for the liner 12 and sheath-body 24 can comprise heat fusible thread 54 and elastic nylon thread 56, interlocked with warp threads 44. As one advantageous example the weft threads 46 in the liner 12 and sheath-body 24 are comprised of alternating heat fusible threads 54 and elastic nylon lines 56. The warp threads 44 in the liner 12

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and sheath-body 24 can be selected from nylon thread, elastic urethane thread and combinations thereof. Advantageously the softness layer 36 is formed by of the warp and weft threads.

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AMENDMENT TO THE FIGURES

Please enter corrected Figure 4 enclosed herewith in the application.

Please enter new Figure 5 enclosed herewith in the application.